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DIGITAL EDITION

WORLD RECORD BREAKING COMIC!

SPAWN

SPAWN'S UNIVERSE 92 23

RORY McCONVILLE
TODD McFARLANE ADDITIONAL SCRIPT
SCRIPT/PLOT

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SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

Jim Downing and Nyx's attack against Spawn was only partially successful. Nyx has gained control of half the Dead Zones while Spawn retains the other half.

image

TODD McFARLANE PRODUCTIONS
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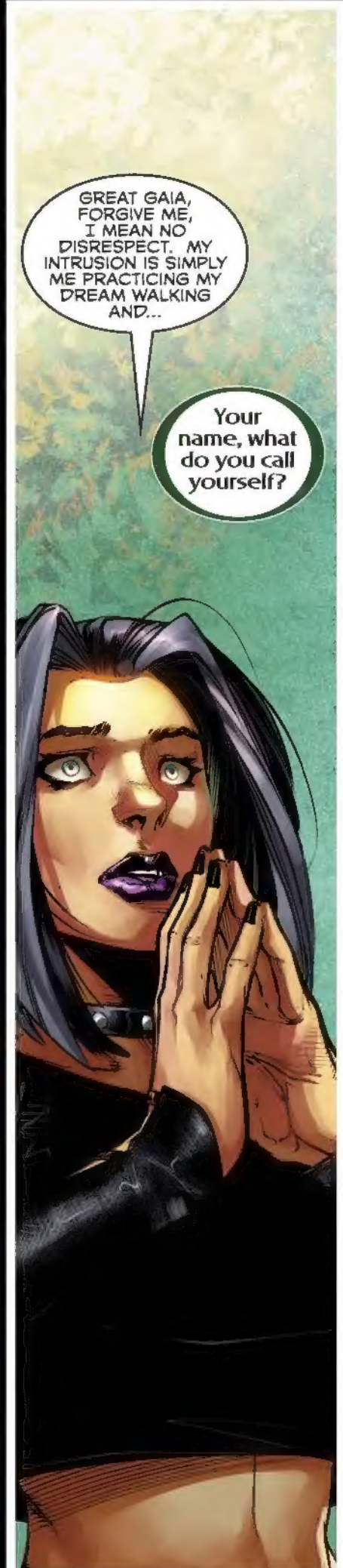
"GREENWORLD.
"ALONG WITH HEAVEN AND HELL, IT'S ONE OF THE GREAT FORCES IN THE UNIVERSE...
"...AND SINCE MY EARLIEST DAYS OF STUDYING MAGICK, I'VE BEEN *ENTRANCED* BY IT.
You are trespassing.
"I ROMANTICIZED IT."

"BUT TRUTH CAN DELIVER ITSELF IN A HARSH WAY."
You have NO RIGHT to be here!


GREAT GAIA, FORGIVE ME, I MEAN NO DISRESPECT. MY INTRUSION IS SIMPLY ME PRACTICING MY DREAM WALKING AND...
Your name, what do you call yourself?

CARRIE...
CARRIE ANDREWS.
Your REAL name. Not the one you were given. The one you have CHOSEN.
NYX.
MY NAME IS NYX. I WISH TO SERVE GREENWORLD.
Is that so?
We do not normally tolerate intruders, but you intrigue me.
"From this moment forward, you may commence your training as a 'Maiden' of Greenworld.
"In time, we will see if you can become more."

"MY LIFE CHANGED IN WAYS I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED.
"THE NEXT FEW YEARS, I SET TO WORK HONING MY SKILLS, DETERMINED TO DEDICATE MYSELF TO GREENWORLD.
"IT WAS THAT CONNECTION TO GREENWORLD THAT FIRST LED ME TO AL SIMMONS.
"ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE INDIVIDUALS I'VE EVER MET. AT LEAST HE WAS WHEN I KNEW HIM.
"HE'S ALWAYS BEEN TORMENTED, BUT I NEVER DOUBTED THAT HE WAS TRYING TO DO GOOD.
"MY TIME WITH HIM WAS NEVER DULL.
"THAT'S TO SAY NOTHING ABOUT HOW MUCH MY TIME WITH HIM FURTHERED MY MYSTICAL EDUCATION.
"AFTER ALL, HOW MANY CAN SAY THEY'VE BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A HELLSPAWN?"

"WHEN HE DIED*... IT WAS HARD, BUT HE WASN'T THE FIRST PERSON I'D LOST. AND I WASN'T GOING TO SIT AROUND MOURNING.
*issue 185 – Thomas
"I GATHERED NEW ALLIES, LIKE JESSICA. SHE HELPED ME CONTINUE AL'S MISSION OF PROTECTING HUMANITY FROM THE FORCES OF HEAVEN AND HELL.
"UNTIL ONE DAY... AL RETURNED.
"RUMORS HAD BEEN FLOATING AROUND FOR SOME TIME BUT THEY WERE CONFIRMED WHEN HE APPEARED ON T.V.
"EVEN THEN, HE SEEMED A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE AL I REMEMBERED.
"DID IT HURT THAT HE HADN'T BEEN IN TOUCH DIRECTLY? SURE, BUT I FIGURED HE HAD HIS REASONS. I ASSUMED HE'D CONTACT ME WHEN HE WAS READY.
"THAT MOMENT NEVER CAME-- BECAUSE I WAS MURDERED."

"TRUTH IS, WHILE I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE SOMEONE CLOSE TO ME, MY MURDER HADN'T BEEN A TOTAL SURPRISE.
"GIVEN THE CIRCLES I WALKED IN, I'D ALWAYS KNOWN SOMEONE WOULD COME FOR ME *EVENTUALLY.* SO, I DID MY BEST TO TAKE THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.
"I STILL HADN'T KNOWN IF IT WOULD WORK OR NOT.
HELLO?
ANYONE?
AH, GOOD, YOU'RE AWAKE.
I MUST SAY, I'VE NEVER COME ACROSS SUCH AN INTRICATE SPELL OF RESURRECTION BEFORE.

WELCOME TO GREENWORLD, NYX. I AM THE STEWARD.
HOW IS YOUR NEW BODY?
OCCASIONALLY THERE CAN BE ISSUES, BUT GIVEN THE DETAILED CELLULAR BLUEPRINT ATTACHED TO YOUR SPELL, OUR MAGES BELIEVE IT TO BE ALMOST IDENTICAL TO YOUR OLD ONE.
I FEEL DIZZY.
THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED. DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?
I... HAD SOME INFORMATION FOR SPAWN... I CALLED ARTHUR THEN...
"YOU'VE BEEN DECEIVED.
"THE MAN YOU KNEW AS ARTHUR WAS ACTUALLY COGLIOSTRO, A KEY ARCHITECT IN THE CHAOS CURRENTLY ENGULFING EARTH."
WHY WOULD HE...
WE BELIEVE HE WAS TRYING TO STEAL THE LATENT HELLSPAWN POWER YOU HELD.

ALTHOUGH HE FAILED ON THAT OCCASION, HE SUBSEQUENTLY SUCCEEDED IN TRANSFORMING HIMSELF INTO AN INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS BEING KNOWN AS SINN!!!
HE WAS A THIEF?
AND MURDERER.
WE SHOULD CONTACT SPAWN, HE HAS A HISTORY WITH COGLIOSTRO, MAYBE HE CAN HELP US FIND HIM.
I THINK NOT. BESIDES SINN, SPAWN IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST THREATS TO OUR WORLD.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
AH--FORGIVE ME, I FORGET HOW MUCH TIME HAS PASSED WHILE YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING.

THE PROCESS OF CREATING MY NEW BODY HAD TAKEN SEVERAL MONTHS AND DURING THAT TIME, THE WORLD HAD BECOME A DARKER, MORE DANGEROUS PLACE.
COUNTLESS NEW DANGERS HAD BEEN UNLEASHED BY A FEARFUL TIME SPAWN HAD OPENED, WHILE EXISTING THREATS HAD BECOME EMBOLDENED.
WE WALKED FOR HOURS, THE STEWARD RECOUNTING EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED SINCE MY DEATH.
GREENWORLD HAS NOT ESCAPED UNSCATHED FROM THIS, EITHER. ROT AND DECAY HAS CREPT IN, AND I FEAR WE'RE RAPIDLY APPROACHING THE POINT OF NO RETURN.
WHAT IS GAIA DOING ABOUT THIS? I NEED TO SPEAK WITH HER.
YOU WILL SEE HER SOON BUT SHE IS PRESENTLY OCCUPIED.
FOR NOW, THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT WISHES TO SPEAK WITH YOU.
DURING MY STUDIES, I'D READ MANY STORIES ABOUT THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT, THE GOVERNING BODY OF GREENWORLD THAT SITS UNDER GAIA.
OVER THE CENTURIES, ITS EXISTENCE HAS REMAINED CRITICAL TO THE HEARTBEAT OF GREENWORLD.

AND IN ADDITION TO THE STEWARD, THE CURRENT INCARNATION OF THAT PARLIAMENT CONSISTS OF:
THE CRADLE
AND THE NAVIGATOR
THE KEEPER
THE BUILDER.
WE HAVE ALWAYS TRIED NOT TO INVOLVE OURSELVES DIRECTLY IN THE WARS BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL, BUT THEIR ENDLESS SQUABBLING OVER 'THE DEAD ZONES' HAS MADE THAT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT.
IN THE PAST, WE DISCREETLY SENT AGENTS INTO THE WORLD TO HELP KEEP THINGS UNDER CONTROL. EVEN TRYING TO WORK WITH SPAWN HIMSELF.*
A DECISION WHICH, GIVEN HIS RECENT ACTIONS, HAS PROVEN TO BE A GRIEVOUS ERROR.
*Issue #75 – Thomas
THE KEY TO DE-ESCALATING THIS NEW WAR IS FOR GREENWORLD TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE DEAD ZONES.
WON'T THAT BRING THE WAR TO GREENWORLD?
ONLY IF THE OTHER SIDES LEARNS WE'RE RESPONSIBLE.
WE ARE SECRETLY CREATING A FORCE TO SEIZE AWAY CONTROL OF THE DEAD ZONES FROM SPAWN.

WITH HOPE NONE OF THEM FIND OUT IT WAS US.
AND IF THEY DO? YOU'LL ALL HAVE GIANT *TARGETS* ON YOUR BACKS.
IT'S TRUE THAT THERE ARE RISKS, BUT THOSE INVOLVED WOULD HAVE THE PROTECTION OF GREENWORLD, AND COULD REMAIN HERE FOREVER IF THEY CHOSE.
OUR STRIKE-FORCE IS ALMOST READY, NYX, BUT THERE IS ONE CRITICAL PIECE STILL MISSING.
THE STEWARD BELIEVES YOU HAVE THE POWER NEEDED TO BREAK INTO SPAWN'S MIND TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE DEAD ZONES.
WILL YOU HEED GREENWORLD'S CALL?
I'LL NEED TIME TO LEARN THE NECESSARY SPELLS, BUT I'M AT YOUR SERVICE.
EXCELLENT. YOU HAVE SHOWN YOURSELF TO BE A LOYAL MAIDEN, NYX...

...THE TIME HAS COME TO RECOGNIZE THAT DEDICATION.
HENCEFORTH, BY ORDER OF THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT, YOU WILL HOLD THE RANK OF SCION--
--CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROTECTING GREENWORLD FROM ANY WHO WISH TO DO IT HARM.
NOW, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE REST OF YOUR TEAM.

"TO BE HONEST, WHEN I HEARD I WOULD BE WORKING WITH JIM DOWNING, I HAD CONCERNS.
"WE'D NEVER MET, BUT I'D KEPT TABS ON HIM WHEN HE WAS AL'S REPLACEMENT. WHAT I OBSERVED DIDN'T FILL ME WITH CONFIDENCE.
"FORTUNATELY, HE'S SINCE PROVEN HIMSELF MANY TIMES OVER.
I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU. LAST I HEARD YOU WERE IN A COMA.
"PROBLEM WAS, I HAD HEAVEN AND HELL HUNTING ME AND I HAD NO SPAWN POWERS ANYMORE.
THANK AL FOR THAT, HE 'WOKE' ME UP.
"SIMMONS' ENERGY [illegible] LEFT ME WITH A SMALL BIT OF NECROPLASM BUT, THAT RAN OUT.
"IF NOT FOR GREENWORLD, I'D HAVE DIED."

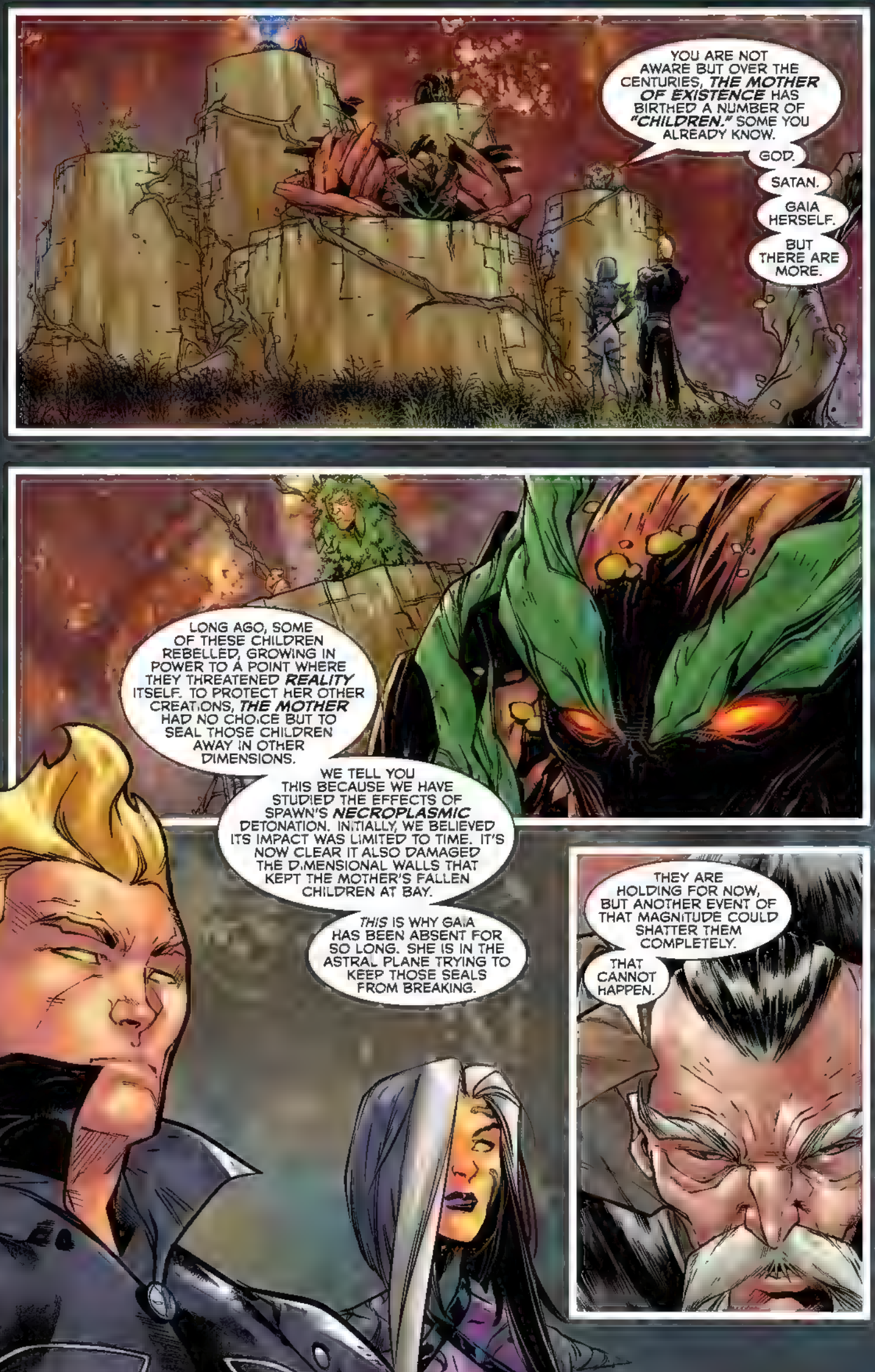
THEY GAVE ME POWERS DESIGNED TO *MIMIC* MY OLD ONES, SO THAT PEOPLE WON'T FIGURE OUT WHO I'M WORKING FOR.
ACTUALLY, WHILE IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I NEED TO TELL YOU.
IT'S... A BIT COMPLICATED.
LOOK... I DO BELIEVE GREENWORLD IS OUR BEST HOPE TO SAVE THE WORLD BUT WE NEED TO BE *CAREFUL*. I'VE BEEN HERE FOR MONTHS NOW AND FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE EVERYONE ON THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT ARE BEHIND THIS PLAN.
THE ORACLE AND THE NAVIGATOR LEAD A FACTION THAT'S WANTING TO PURSUE MORE HARDLINE TACTICS THAT COULD LEAD TO TRAUMA ON EARTH.
IF WE FAIL TO CONTROL ALL THE 'DEAD ZONES,' I'M WORRIED WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN.
"IT WAS AN ODD THING FOR HIM TO SAY, BUT STILL WE JOINED FORCES."

"BUT BY THE TIME I BECAME INVOLVED JIM HAD ALREADY ASSEMBLED HIS TEAM. BUT, ONE SLOT WAS LEFT TO FILL."
I'M NOT SURE HAUNT'S A GOOD FIT. WHY DON'T WE TRY JESSICA PRIEST? I'VE WORKED WITH HER. SHE'S DEPENDABLE.
SHE'S TOO CLOSE TO AL.
AND MARC ROSEN ISN'T?
MARC'S SITUATION IS DIFFERENT. TRUST ME.
"IN ADDITION TO MARC ROSEN, JIM ALSO RECRUITED OVERT-KILL AND CY-GOR, TWO OF AL'S UNDEAD ENFORCERS
AL MAY BE ABLE TO RAISE THE DEAD BUT ONLY GREENWORLD HAS THE POWER TO FULLY RESTORE THINGS TO LIFE.
"MONTHS BEFORE MY RETURN, JIM HAD KIDNAPPED THEM FROM AL'S BASE THEN USED GREENWORLD RESOURCES TO REVIVE THEM.
"WHEN AL CAME TO RETRIEVE THEM, HE HAD NO IDEA HE WAS TAKING SPIES BACK TO HIS BASE."

"I HAVE TO ADMIT, I STILL DIDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'D BEEN TOLD ABOUT AL.
"THERE HAD TO BE SOME OTHER EXPLANATION.
"THAT BEGAN TO CHANGE AS I SPIED ON HIM OVER THOSE NEXT FEW MONTHS. I BARELY RECOGNIZED THE MAN IN FRONT OF ME.
"THERE WAS NO ONE MOMENT THAT DID IT. IT WAS MORE A STEADY EROSION UNTIL ONE DAY I REALIZED I'D LOST FAITH IN HIM.
"FROM THEN ON I COMMITTED MYSELF FULLY TO THE MISSION. WHILE JIM BUILT UP OUR OPERATIONS, I REMAINED IN GREENWORLD, PREPARING FOR THE EVENTUAL ATTACK.
"AND YET, I COULD NOT SHAKE THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING WAS AMISS HERE TOO.
"I HADN'T BEEN GAIA ONCE SINCE WE ARRIVED.
"WHENEVER I ASKED ABOUT HER, THE ANSWER WOULD ALWAYS BE THE SAME."
GAIA IS PREOCCUPIED. THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT CAN ASSIST IN HER STEAD.

FINALLY WAS TIME TO ATTACK
AND THOUGH I'D SPENT MUCH TIME TO PREPARE SEEING A[illegible] AGAIN AFTER SO LONG WAS HARDER THAN I WOULD'VE IMAGINED
BUT THE WORST PART WAS HAVING AFTER ALL THAT TIME AND ENERGY AND THAT SACRIFICE WE FAILED

YOU HAVE BOTH DONE WELL TODAY.
UNFORTUNATELY, CONTROLLING ONLY HALF THE DEAD ZONES...
...WILL NOT BE ENOUGH...
...TO END THIS WAR.
WE HAVE DECIDED MORE EXTREME ACTIONS WILL BE NEEDED.
WE CAN MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT.
THE DECISION IS FINAL.
THEN I WISH TO SEE GAIA, AS IS MY RIGHT AS A SCION OF GREENWORLD.
WHERE IS SHE?
YOU TELL HER.
THERE HAVE BEEN SOME SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS WE HAVE RECENTLY LEARNED OF.


YOU ARE NOT AWARE BUT OVER THE CENTURIES, THE MOTHER OF EXISTENCE HAS BIRTHED A NUMBER OF "CHILDREN." SOME YOU ALREADY KNOW.
GOD.
SATAN.
GAIA HERSELF.
BUT THERE ARE MORE.
LONG AGO, SOME OF THESE CHILDREN REBELLED, GROWING IN POWER TO A POINT WHERE THEY THREATENED REALITY ITSELF. TO PROTECT HER OTHER CREATIONS, THE MOTHER HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO SEAL THOSE CHILDREN AWAY IN OTHER DIMENSIONS.
WE TELL YOU THIS BECAUSE WE HAVE STUDIED THE EFFECTS OF SPAWN'S NECROPLASMIC DETONATION. INITIALLY, WE BELIEVED ITS IMPACT WAS LIMITED TO TIME. IT'S NOW CLEAR IT ALSO DAMAGED THE DIMENSIONAL WALLS THAT KEPT THE MOTHER'S FALLEN CHILDREN AT BAY.
THIS IS WHY GAIA HAS BEEN ABSENT FOR SO LONG. SHE IS IN THE ASTRAL PLANE TRYING TO KEEP THOSE SEALS FROM BREAKING.
THEY ARE HOLDING FOR NOW, BUT ANOTHER EVENT OF THAT MAGNITUDE COULD SHATTER THEM COMPLETELY.
THAT CANNOT HAPPEN.

FOR NOW, GAIA IS OF NO HELP TO US, SO IT FALLS TO THE EMERALD PARLIAMENT TO ACT.
IF IT WERE UP TO ME, I WOULD SIMPLY WIPE THE UNIVERSE CLEAN AND START OVER. BUT WITHOUT GAIA, WE LACK THE POWER TO DO SO ON OUR OWN.
NEVER-THELESS, WE WILL NOT STAND IDLE ANY LONGER AND SO, THE PARLIAMENT HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON GREEN-WORLD'S LONG-STANDING POSITION OF NON-INTERVENTION.
TO END THIS WAR OUR PRIORITY MUST BE TO PRESERVE OUR EXISTENCE FIRST
EVERYTHING ELSE IS EXPENDABLE.
TO BE CONTINUED...

1:3:9:3

SPAWNING GROUND PRESENTS: MAILBAG

Jet impressed me with his process for his latest painting. First, he took the McFarlane Toys' Red Death Flash figure and drew, cutout and taped angel/bat wings to its back. Next, he used the figure as reference to draw the Blue Death toy, which is being held by… Baby Spawn. Finally, for this baby version of our esteemed hero, Jet rewatched Todd's art tutorial video on Baby Black Panther while referencing the cover of Spawn #1. Jet used paint, pencil, pen, and marker to create this one. We hope you enjoy until next month. Oh, and side note, I'm getting Jet a new McFarlane figure each month as part of his reward for his commitment to monthly Spawn fan-art.
Thanks & Love,

-JAN L

Jan, I remember meeting you and Jet at SDCC last year! Glad to see that he is keeping up with his art regime. Now Blue Death… that might make a cool figure! Thanks for sending in Jets' latest creation, and tell him hi from Todd and me.

-THOMAS

Hey, everyone. I just wanted to share this issue 1 sketch cover swipe of Todd's OG concept cover. I thought it would make a fun sketch cover and had been meaning to do this ever since these books dropped.

-JAMES C

James, thanks for sending in this piece. It came out great! This isn't one that we see homaged much. Keep up the art, and thanks again.

-THOMAS

I am now caught up with Spawn and I have to say, wow! Nyx is back and has been working with Greenworld?!? That's a cool twist. I loved her character and was bummed when Todd killed her off. I really like where Rory has been going with his stories. Hopefully we will get to see some more of the other Spawns that were showing up for a while again, like Spartan Spawn and Detective Spawn.

-MARCO V

Thanks for the letter, Marco. I, too, was very excited when we decided to bring Nyx back. She's always been an interesting character. As far as "other" Spawns, don't worry; we have plenty planned for this year, including the return of some age-old characters.

-THOMAS

Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawninggground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S UNIVERSE?

DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES:

SPAWN

KING SPAWN

SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER SPAWN

FEATURING COVER ARTIST SIMONE BIANCHI IN FEBRUARY 2023!

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